

CLAIMS

1. A device for transmitting data wirelessly, the transmission of the data operating under a wireless protocol;

a first circuit for receiving or transmitting data packets from or to a remote wireless device;

a second circuit for receiving or transmitting data packets from or to a first device through a network connection; and

a third circuit for determining a load factor, wherein the load factor is based at least in part on the latency of a data packet in moving between the remote wireless device and the first device.

2. A device for transmitting data wirelessly, the transmission of the data operating under a wireless protocol, the device comprising:

a first circuit for receiving or transmitting data packets from or to a remote wireless device;

a second circuit for receiving or transmitting data packets from or to a first device through a network connection;

a third circuit for determining a load factor;

wherein the load factor is based at least in part on the latency of a data packet in moving between the remote wireless device and the first device; and

the device relaying the load factor to the remote device through the first circuit upon receiving an indication from the remote wireless device.

3. A method for determining a load factor for a device associated with a wireless network, the method comprising:

selectively determining to measure a latency associated with a particular incoming packet;

upon selectively determining to measure a latency, performing the steps of:

determining a first time associated with the arrival of the incoming packet from a first network device;

determining a second time associated with the sending of the incoming packet to a second network device;

determining a first value associated with the first time and the second time, the value to be sent to other wireless network devices as an indication of the network load of the device.

4. A device for transmitting data wirelessly, the transmission of the data operating under a wireless protocol, the device comprising:

first means for receiving or transmitting data packets from or to a remote wireless device;

first means for receiving or transmitting data packets from or to a first device through a network connection;

means for determining a load factor;

wherein the load factor is based at least in part on the latency of a data packet in moving between the remote wireless device and the first device; and

the device relaying the load factor to the remote wireless device upon receiving an indication from the remote wireless device.